

PATENT  
450117-02928

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Niels MACHE et al.  
Filed : Herewith  
For : INSTANT MESSAGING

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PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

Before the issuance of the first Official Action,  
please amend the above-identified application as follows:

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend the claims as follows:

Claim 3, line 1, delete "anyone of the preceding  
claims" and insert --claim 1--;

Claim 4, line 1, delete "anyone of the preceding  
claims" and insert --claim 1--;

Claim 5, line 1, delete "anyone of the preceding  
claims" and insert --claim 1--;

Claim 6, line 1, delete "anyone of the preceding  
claims" and insert --claim 1--;

Claim 7, line 1, delete "anyone to the preceding  
claims" and insert --claim 1--;

Claim 8, line 1, delete "anyone to the preceding  
claims" and insert --claim 1--;

Claim 9, line 1, delete "anyone of the preceding  
claims" and insert --claim 1--;

Claim 11, line 1, delete "anyone of the preceding  
claims" and insert --claim 1--;

Claim 14, line 1, delete "anyone of claims 12 or 13"  
and insert --claim 12--;

Claim 17, line 1, delete "or 16";

Claim 18, line 1, delete "anyone of claims 15 to 17"  
and insert --claim 15--;

Claim 19, line 1, delete "anyone of claims 15 to 18"  
and insert --claim 15--;

Claim 20, line 1, delete "anyone of claims 15 to 19"  
and insert --claim 15--;

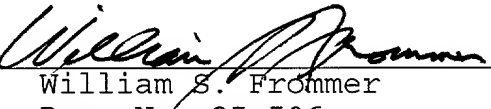
Claim 21, line 3, delete "anyone of claims 15 to 20"  
and insert --claim 15--.

REMARKS

The claims have been amended to eliminate multiple dependencies. The filing fee has been calculated based upon these amendments to the claims.

Respectfully submitted,

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